

# Greater Victoria Animals' Crusaders



Many youngsters dabble in devilish behavior this time of year, and often, animals are the targets of their pranks. But what's a "treat" for the kids can be a cruel trick for a dog or cat. Here are some tips to help keep your animals safe on this haunting holiday:



Most importantly, keep animals inside. For cats-especially black cats, who have unfairly been associated with "evil forces"-the days leading up to Halloween can be dark, indeed, as pranksters often go on the prowl for roaming kitties. In fact, many animal shelters refuse to adopt out black cats during the entire month of October.

Dogs should be kept indoors, too. Some kids think that letting dogs out of their yards on Halloween is a great trick, but it's a terrifying experience for dogs, who run from the noise and strangely dressed people and become lost. Dogs can also be injured when kids poke at them through fences or pelt them with eggs.

Put animals in a secure room during trick-or-treat time. Cats can quickly slip out the front door, and dogs sometimes try to bite unsuspecting kids, thinking that they're intruders. For everyone's safety, it's best to keep animals inside a bedroom or family room, away from all the commotion.

Don't take dogs on trick-or-treating trips, when most kids are more interested in collecting candy than watching the dog. Dogs can easily become frightened by the endless stream of laughing and screaming children and run off or bite someone.

Keep bowls of candy out of animals' reach, and make sure that kids know not to share their goodies with four-legged friends. All candy (and wrappers!) can cause animals to become sick, and chocolate, which contains an ingredient poisonous to dogs, can kill. A simple cat or dog treat will make animals' Halloween great without making them sick.

Keep curious noses and paws away from candles and party favors. Jack-o-lanterns lit up by candles are appropriately spooky, but they can burn animals (and children) or start fires if tipped over. The ink used in some brightly colored decorations, like orange streamers and paper pumpkins, is toxic to animals, and swallowed balloons or party favors can block an animal's digestive tract.

Remember that animals aren't party props. Fido may look cute wearing a witch's hat, but many animals become upset if forced into clothing. Costumes that are kept in place with tight rubber bands can cut off circulation. And while some party-planners think that it's frightful fun to have a black cat jump out of a closet at guests, the frightened kitty (and guest) probably won't agree.

## ***Annual General Meeting***

**Come and Vote in the Next Years Board of Directors!**

**October 21, 2007 at 1:30 PM**

**James Bay New Horizons Society  
234 Menzies Street, Victoria B.C.**

***"Compassion for animals is intimately connected with goodness of character and it may be confidently asserted that he who is cruel to animals cannot be a good man." - Arthur Schopenhauer, German Philosopher***

---

## **Critter in Need**



Molly is a 2 year old Golden Retriever x. She has now been taken into Greater Victoria Animals' Crusaders care after suffering severe neglect and abuse in her short life. Also,

Molly is suffering from entropion, a rolling in of both upper and lower eyelids with infections in both eyes. She is at great risk for corneal ulcers which may result in total blindness. Molly requires a lengthy and costly surgery in order for her to live a quality life. This procedure will correct her painful condition.

Can you help? We are in need of donations for her surgery. ***Please donate to:***  
***"The Molly Fund"***

c/o Greater Victoria Animals' Crusaders  
PO Box 5541 Station B Victoria BC V8R 6S4

Tax receipts will be issued.

## *16 ways to help animals*

1. **Spay and neuter.** Each year, millions of dogs and cats are put to death in animal shelters. Spaying and neutering eases the overpopulation problem and prolongs the life of your dog or cat.
2. **Never buy an animal from a pet shop (unless the pet store assists a local rescue).** Adopt your companion animals from shelters. Pet shops buy from puppy mills and large-scale breeders who contribute to the population crisis and whose over-bred animals are often very unhealthy.
3. **Never give an animal as a gift.** Many an animal has been abandoned because people aren't prepared to care for it. Discuss it with your friends and family first.
4. **Take notice and take action.** Never ignore stray animals on the street, where they can become victims of disease, starvation, and human cruelty.
5. **Help lost animals find their way home.** Pay attention to flyers posted in your neighborhood. If you find a lost animal with no tag, post it in the newspaper, but be vague in your description. Animal guardians should be able to describe their animals in detail.
6. **Support your local animal shelter or Rescue.** Animal shelters and rescues always need help socializing cats and walking dogs, fostering animals, and cleaning cages and pens. If you cannot volunteer, send a contribution.
7. **Report abuse.** Call your local humane society if you witness any type of cruelty or abuse. It is common knowledge that violence towards non-human animals is a precursor of violence towards human animals.
8. **Keep them safe at home.** Be sure to keep collars and tags on dogs and cats (even if they are indoors). In case of an emergency, they can be returned home safely. Be sure to have a secure fence for dogs in your yard.
9. **Use natural cleaners.** Hazardous chemicals are harmful to your animals' health. Use only non-toxic cleaners in your home, and always clean up antifreeze (which tastes sweet to animals). Contact the Environmental Protection Agency (800-424-9346) to learn how to properly dispose of hazardous chemicals.
10. **Warn people about thieves.** People who place "free to a good home" ads in newspapers don't realize that "bunchers" are known to scan such ads for animals they can sell to laboratories.
11. **Attend a humane dog training course with your pooch.** Learn to communicate with your dog, who is eager to please but isn't always clear on what you expect.
12. **Provide exercise for your dogs.** Dogs crave walking, running, digging, and exploring. Go for long walks if possible, and use a retractable leash.
13. **Keep cats indoors.** Indoor cats live longer, safer, healthier lives. Cars, pesticides, feral cats, cruel humans, rabid animals, leghold traps, storm drains, and animal thieves (who sell them to labs for a profit) are just some of the reasons to keep cats indoors. With love and shelter, cats do not feel deprived.
14. **Trim your cat's claws. Don't declaw.** Have your veterinarian trim the nails, or buy a good pair of nail clippers. Invest in a good scratching post that is sturdy and tall enough for your cat to stretch out fully.
15. **Tattoo your dog or cat.** Vets, shelters, and laboratories often check for tattoos, and many animals have returned home as a result. They are painless and permanent.
16. **Educate yourself.** Read books to learn to care for your companion animal properly.

**The question is not, "Can they reason?" nor, "Can they talk?" but rather, "Can they suffer?" ~Jeremy Bentham**

# Great Christmas Idea !!

## 2008 Fundraiser Calendar

Purchase a Calendar for \$15 & Help Save  
Animals

Inside each month we showcase an animal we  
have helped & their story !



100% of Proceeds go to Save Animals Just Like These



All animals in this calendar have been rescued by Animal Crusaders



Photography by:

### Purchase your Calendar at:

Belmont Langford Vet ~ 785 Goldstream Ave Langford

Quadra Veterinary Clinic ~ 2608 Quadra Street

Gorge Veterinary Clinic ~ 2904 Tillicum Road

K9HQ Doggy Daycare ~ 102-721 Station Ave

Langford

CRD Pound ~ 5401 Pat Bay Highway

CRD Office ~ 212-2780 Veterans Memorial Parkway

Or Email: [gvac@shaw.ca](mailto:gvac@shaw.ca) or call 381-4744



Check out Who we have up for Adoption !  
GVAC now has all our animals up for adoption on  
[www.animalcrusader.ca](http://www.animalcrusader.ca)

Check us out !



Kittens



Cats



Puppies



Dogs



Other Animals

~ In Memory ~



*Pippin who came to GVAC in his later years of life very sick .. He went into a loving foster home where he was able to spend his final days loved !*



### WereWoofles Wag'oween!

Saturday, October 27th

Registration: 1PM - Costume contests: 1:30PM

Trick contests immediately after

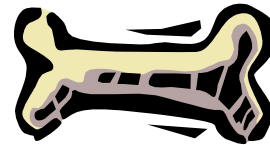
Where: Market Square

This is a fun fundraising pet costume contest **benefiting Animal Crusader** Strut your poochie's stuff on the "dog" walk. Prizes to win, and lots of poochies to see. Pet owners can also update their Emergency Preparedness Pet Id.



## July & August STATISTICS

Cat Spay	Cat Neuter	Dog Spay	Dog Neuter	Other
<b>JULY TOTAL ANIMALS HELPED</b>				<b>118</b>
19	30	3	3	73
<b>AUGUST TOTAL ANIMALS HELPED</b>				<b>172</b>
26	20	4	5	118



Thanks to all who can and participated in the  
 Wags to Whiskers Dinner & Auction  
 Together we raised \$9,315.31

### Santa Needed !!

Animal Crusaders is having Pet Photo's with Santa on December 1st and 2nd and is in need of a Santa for both or either day.

This will be done at Bosley's on Burnside from 10 - 4 both days.

Santa Suite provided plus tones of fun !

Must be good with all sorts of animals !

Please email [gvac@shaw.ca](mailto:gvac@shaw.ca) if you want to volunteer

### Dog & Cat Foster Homes Urgently Needed

GVAC is in desperate need of dog & cat foster homes.

If you can foster a needy dog or cat please email Pamela at [gvac@shaw.ca](mailto:gvac@shaw.ca)

## **Donate to the United Way or Public Employees Community Service Fund**

Designate your donation to “Greater Victoria Animals’ Crusaders”  
and help us save animals lives !

For the PECSF go to:

<http://www.bcpublicservice.ca/communityfund/>

PECSF ID	Charity Name	Federal Charity Number
DC0201	Greater Victoria Animal Crusaders	118946888RR0001

For the United Way:

To donate to the United Way call 385-6708 or Visit [www.unitedwayvictoria.bc.ca](http://www.unitedwayvictoria.bc.ca)

### Pledge Form Instructions:

- On the bottom of your pledge form there is a box that says “Designations”
- Check the box that says “I Wish to designate some of my donation”
- Flip the page over and go to the back of the White pledge form on the Bottom where it says “Other Designations”
- For Name of Charity write “The Greater Victoria Animal Crusaders – REG # 1189 46888 RR0001”
- Put the amount of which you would like to go to GVAC



PO Box 5541, Station B Victoria BC V8R 6S5 474-5581

I support Animal Crusaders fight against overpopulation, abandoned & abused animals.

Membership: Single \$10.00 \_\_ Family (two or more) \$17.50 \_\_\_\_  
Senior \$6.00 \_\_ Life \$100.00 \_\_\_\_ Student \$6.00 \_\_\_\_

I wish to make: "One Time" donation: \_\_\_\_ "Monthly" donation: \_\_\_\_

\_\_ \$15 \_\_ \$25 \_\_ \$50 \_\_ \$75 \_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_

\*\* I would like the monthly deducted on: 1st of Month \_\_\_\_ 15th Month \_\_\_\_

\*\* For monthly automatic withdrawal from your account please mail in a voided Cheque.

I wish to charge this to my  Visa  MC  Amex  
Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(for receipt) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_



**Something you want to see in our News Letter??**

**Email any story or topic suggestions to the email below.**

**Contact Us:**

**P.O. Box 5541 – Station B**

**Victoria BC V8R 6S4**

**(Phone) 250-474-5581**

**(Email) [gvac@island.net](mailto:gvac@island.net) (For Inquiries, Subscription or Cancel your**

**Subscription) Web:**

**[www.animalcrusaders.ca](http://www.animalcrusaders.ca)**